A

REVIEW

OF THE

STATE

OF THE

BRITISH NATION.

Tuesday, August 28. 1711.

IN My last I gave you some Thoughts of the publick Reports of a Fight between the *Muscovites* and the *Turks*, and have made some probable Conjectures at Things on that Side, I leave them to the Issue; *only as I said then*, if I have hit right, I hope you will allow me to guess again on the like Occasion.

We have now another Scene of War opening in the World, where the Protestant Powers of *Europe*, are, as I think, justly Represented pulling down with their own Hands, the Props and Pillars, on which the Protestant Interest in *Germany* has, for 70 Years past, entirely depended. The *Danes*, the *Muscovites*, and the *Saxons* are now join'd to push the *Swedes* out of *Germany*— Those *Swedes*, who were the alone Instruments to preserve the Peace and the Liberty of *Germany*, in but a few Years before: The Duke of *Mecklenbergh*, whose Ancestors when dispossess'd by *Ferdinand* II. Emperor of *Germany*, was restor'd to their Country and Dominions by the *Swedes*, now give up *Rostock* to the *Danes* as a Place of Arms, and furnish them with Provisions, and assist them with all Necessaries, that they may Attack the same *Swedish* Power that gave them (the Duke of *Mecklenbergh*) their Country. *The Saxons*, whose Father were

Rescu'd

Rescu'd from the Fury of General *Tilly*, who Ravag'd *Lusatia*, and Threatned to make the City of *Leipsick* like that of *Magdeburgh*, which he had sack'd, burnt, and put 17000 People to the Sword, without Respect to Sex or Age; *The Saxons*, whose Father fled at the Battle of *Leipsick*, and gave all for lost, but were rescu'd again by the *Swedes*, under the Great *Gustavus Adolphus* —— These are the Men who now turn their Swords against the *Swedes* to drive them out of *Germany*, who if they had not come into *Germany*, the *Saxons* had not been now a Free, and perhaps not a Protestant Nation; nay, it was more than probable, they had been no Nation at all.

These are the Ways of this World! and such the unhappy Clashing Interests of Princes! that leave no room for the Laws of Gratitude, or the Honour and Generosity, which in other Cases is so Natural to great Men to shew themselves.

I have nothing to do with the King of *Sweden* in this; his accepting or not accepting the Neutrality concerted at the *Hague*, or with any other his unaccountable Managements; I may as readily allow he has been as Impolitick and as Regardless of the general Interest of Religion, in these Things, as any Body will alledge; but whatever he is, or whatever he has done, this War is not so much a repelling him, as a supplanting the *Swedish* Nation, and pushing them out of *Germany*, where the Power of that Nation has been all along Esteem'd the Ballance between the Imperial and Popish part of *Germany on the one Hand*, and the Protestant Princes, who without the Support of the *Swedes*, never could, and never will be able to subsist on *the other Hand*.

And what will the Protestant Powers of *Europe* say for themselves hereafter, who sit still, and suffer these Ravages to be made? When the *Swedes* shall be driven out of *Pomerania*, and the *Popish* Powers of *Germany* shall oppress and over-run them; To whom will they fly? To whom will they call for aid? Will Heaven provide another *Gustavus Adolphus*? Will the Protestant *Saxons* cry to the *Swedes* for help? Will the *Prussians*, who now grant the *Muscovites* Passage through their Country to attack the *Swedes*; Will they send to the *Swedes* for help against another *Tilly*? It is strange to me, that these People should have no more at Heart what their Posterity may feel, from the Consequences of these Distracted Doings; or should no more reflect what their Ancestors bore from the Popish Powers of the Empire, and what Condition they had now been in, if the Blood and Treasure of the *Swedes* had not been spent to save them.

This just Reflection, *I hope it is so*, occurr'd to me upon a View of the bloody Consequences of this War: I have read with exceeding Delight, the History of the Wars in *Germany*, the Condition of the Protestants after the Conclusion at *Leipsick*; how one by one, General *Tilly* made them Renounce those Engagements; how he Ravaged the Protestant Dominions, beat the *Landgrave* of *Hessaffel* into a Compliance, burnt and cruelly sack'd the Great City of *Magdeburgh*, and was falling into *Saxony* to put all to Fire and Sword —— How in this Interval, *Gustavus Adolphus, like King William from Holland*, came from *Sweden*, Landed at *Stralsunds, the same Town the* Saxons *are now to Besiege*, brought but 13500 Men with him; how the Duke of *Saxony* sent Expresses one on the Heels of another, to press him to come and save him from Ruin; how he join'd the *Saxon* Army at *Torgau*; and March'd immediately into the Plains of *Leipsick*, Fought and Overthrew the greatest General, and best Army, that Age had ever seen.

Methinks I see the Elector of *Saxony* come to the King's Tent, as he did after the Victory, to Thank him for his Deliverance, acknowledging to the King *that the Victory was all his own, that his own* Saxon Forces *were beaten quite out of the Field in the beginning of the Battle, That all was owing to his brave* Swedes: Methinks I hear him call the King, The Deliverer of *Germany*, Father and Protector, and see him using all the Gestures and Excesses, that Passions of Joy and Gratitude could dictate, to a Prince

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in the higheſt Extaſie of both —— Methinks I ſee the People of *Saxony* Careſſing, Treating and Entertaining the *Swediſh* Soldiers, juſt as we did the *Dutch* at their firſt Landing, thinking nothing too good for thoſe that had deliver'd them from the Fury and Terrour of the Mercileſs Imperial Army.

And are theſe the Sons of that deliver'd Nation, that are now driving the *Swedes* out of *Germany*? Suppoſe the Senſe of former Obligation was no Argument, and perhaps it is not, nor is it that I inſiſt on —— We ſaw the like Paſſion in another People, turn to the moſt abuſive Contempt; turning out the *Dutch* unthank'd, and ſome of them unpaid; hiſſing them out as People that were only to be laugh'd at, not Rewarded: But the Reaſon here is plain, we are ſure we ſhall never want them again; we are for ever Secur'd againſt ever ſtanding in need of Forreign Aid again; we deſie and renounce ever ſeeking help agen, againſt Tyranny and Oppreſſion; (if we did not, we us'd the *Dutch* as if we did:) But in *Germany* the Caſe differs; even the Liberty that Great King purchas'd for them, remains with them only as it is protected by the Power put into the Hands of the *Swedes*, to Enforce and Protect it; and whenever that Power ceaſes, their Liberty lies expos'd to the very ſame Extremities as it did before.

What elſe has made the *Swediſh* Power ſo odious to the Imperial Court? And why elſe do the Popiſh Powers and Princes of *Germany* ſtand ſtill and ſeem pleas'd with this War? —— They cannot but ſecretly rejoyce, to ſee that Power which alone ſupports the Proteſtant Intereſt, attack'd by the Proteſtants themſelves; who after they have once beaten the *Swedes* out of *Pomeren*, may with much more eaſe be beaten out of all *Germany* themſelves, by the Popiſh Intereſt.

And after all this, *ſays one*, What would you have done?

Indeed it ſeems plain to me what ſhould be done —— Why do the *Engliſh* and *Dutch* ſtand Treating and Treating, Preſſing and Soliciting the *Danes* and the *Saxons* not to Invade *Pomeren*? Why do they not declare roundly, That they will not ſuffer *Pomeren* to be Invaded, or the *Swediſh* Nation to be Oppreſs'd?——Is this Maintaining the Neutrallity? Is this holding the Ballance of Power? No, it ſeems rather a betraying or abandoning the Proteſtant Intereſt, and giving it up to Popery.

Why, what ſhould they do? Says my Objector?

My Anſwer is plain; Nothing but ſend 20 Men of War into the *Baltick*, to join the *Swediſh* Fleet, as King *William* did Sir *George Rook*, at the firſt K——ſh War the *Danes* made on *the Swedes*; let but this Fleet protect the *Swediſh* Tranſports while they bring over their Supplies, and prevent the *Danes* Invading *Schonen*; let them but do this, and the *Swedes* will beat all the three Invaders ſtill, nor will they be able to gain their Point at all.

Two Objections lie againſt this.

1. Then the *Swedes* will be ſo Potent, they will again Invade *Saxony*, *Poland* and *Muſcovy*, and hearken to no Terms, juſt as it was before.

2. Then the *Danes* and *Saxons* will immediately in Diſguſt, recall their Troops out of the *Netherlands*.

Both theſe *Chimera's* ſhall be anſwer'd in our next.

ADVER

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